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MADE-IN-B.C. RESOURCE CONNECTS STUDENTS TO THEIR FUTURE

DELTA – British Columbia is leading the country by helping students take charge of their futures by planning their post-secondary education with Perspectives, a learning resource tool featuring an interactive DVD, Advanced Education Minister Murray Coell announced today.

"The future has never been brighter for British Columbians, and the first step a student takes into that future is planning their post-secondary education," said Coell. "By providing students with a learning resource tool that speaks directly to them about the realities of post-secondary education, we will help B.C. reach its goals of being the best educated and most literate jurisdiction on the continent."

Perspectives is the first learning resource ever developed as an interactive DVD and teacher's guide with lesson plans, student activities and support materials based on the Planning 10 curriculum. The DVD features interviews with post-secondary students and young professionals who have recently graduated. As they answer a series of questions, they pass along advice to students in Grade 10 so they can start thinking and preparing for their post-secondary education early.

"The new DVD is a practical addition to the Planning 10 curriculum," said Education Minister Shirley Bond. "This resource will help students create their graduation transition plans from high school to post-secondary education. The DVD is another tool to help students achieve their educational and life goals."

The learning tool was developed in B.C. by B.C. teachers and is free to educators who request it. It is available in both French and English versions.

"This is the first resource tool of its kind in Canada," said Norman Riddell, executive director of the Canada Millennium Scholarship Foundation. "We are delighted to have been able to create it in partnership with the government of British Columbia. We hope to see the Perspectives program grow right across the country."

"It's exciting to introduce Perspectives to my Planning 10 classes," said Delta secondary school teacher Graham Harkley. "I have taught many students who feel overwhelmed with the idea of pursuing a post-secondary education due to financial, cultural or academic barriers. Hopefully, this interactive tool will help students to make more informed decisions about their future."

"With this innovative resource being piloted right here at Delta secondary school, students in this community and around the province now have a head start in making important decisions about their futures after high school," said Delta South MLA Val Roddick.

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Perspectives was developed and co-funded by the Ministry of Advanced Education and the Canada Millennium Scholarship Foundation in consultation with the Ministry of Education. An academic steering committee made up of Planning 10 teachers, school principals and more than 50 other teachers gave input and tested the resource in B.C. classrooms.

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